DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 422 138 RC 021 607

AUTHOR	Cleary, Linda Miller; Peacock, Thomas D.
TITLE	Collected Wisdom: American Indian Education.
ISBN	ISBN-0-205-26757-2
PUB DATE	1998-00-00
NOTE	286p.
AVAILABLE FROM	Allyn & Bacon, 160 Gould Street, Needham Heights, MA 02194; phone: 800-666-9433 ($24 plus $4.59 shipping).
PUB TYPE	Books (010) -- Opinion Papers (120) -- Reports - Research (143)
EDRS PRICE	Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS	American Indian Culture; *American Indian Education; American Indians; Cognitive Style; Cultural Context; *Cultural Differences; *Culturally Relevant Education; Culture Conflict; Educational Needs; Educational Philosophy; *Educational Strategies; Elementary Secondary Education; Interviews; *Language Maintenance; Student Motivation; Student Needs; *Teacher Attitudes; Teaching Experience; Teaching Methods
IDENTIFIERS	Oppression

ABSTRACT

Based on interviews and classroom observation, this book presents the "collected wisdom" of 60 teachers of American Indian students in all parts of the United States, as well as teachers of indigenous students in Australia and Costa Rica. Chapter 1, "Introduction: The Teacher as Learner" presents the authors' backgrounds, the study's emerging themes, general procedures of the study, and rationale for the final presentation of data. The study was based on the premise that teachers in schools that serve Indian children should see themselves as learners who are open to understanding the reasons that children and communities are the way they are, who are willing to discover and consider the differences between school and home cultures, and who are willing to change their ways of teaching to give children a better chance in school and life. Each subsequent chapter has a theme and standard format: a story that introduces the chapter's content, questions to tap the reader's prior knowledge, a profile of a teacher-interviewee, a problematic case study, a summary of research on the theme and its implications for practice, and references. Chapter titles include the following: "Cultural Difference: Recognizing the Gap into Which Students and Teachers Fall"; "What Has Gone Wrong: The Remnants of Oppression"; "Creating a Two-Way Bridge: Being Indian in a Non-Indian World"; "Issues of Native Language"; "Ways of Learning"; "Literacy, Thought, and Empowerment"; and "What Works: Student Motivation as a Guide to Practice." The last chapter is an epilogue which discusses the universality of issues in indigenous education, the strength and tenacity of culture, and the need for an integrated approach to educational problems. Appendixes detail the research methodology and provide questions to guide a teacher's change to authentic assessment. (Contains an index.) (SAS)